

City of Gaithersburg Press Release

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For Immediate Release

Free Tax Preparation Available for Qualified Individuals

Gaithersburg, MD – (January 12, 2023) The annual Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, a partnership of the City of Gaithersburg and the Montgomery County Community Action Agency, is now accepting appointments to prepare 2022 taxes. Casey Community Center will host a VITA site on Mondays from 3 to 8 p.m. beginning on January 23, 2023.

The VITA program offers free tax preparation assistance to low- and moderate-income individuals who earn \$60,000 or less per year. Preparation is done by IRS-trained volunteers who assist taxpayers in determining if they are eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit and other tax credits. Services are offered in both English and Spanish. Appointments are available January 23 through April 14. City residents can schedule an appointment online at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cashback or call 240-777-1123.

In Gaithersburg, the VITA program is part of the City's financial wellness initiatives coordinated by the Financial Wellness Coalition. Initiatives include the <u>Financial Empowerment Center</u>, which provides free financial counseling to help Gaithersburg residents budget, save, pay down debt, and access lower cost banking products. Visitors to the Casey Community Center VITA site will have the opportunity to meet with Financial Empowerment staff and partner financial institutions who will provide information about free financial education programs and open accounts for those interested in direct deposit of their refunds. Click here for more information on City of Gaithersburg financial wellness programs.